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RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES

OF THE

Town of Kensington,

For the year ending March, 1855.

*Amount of Money raised and received by the Selectmen, for the
Year 1854.*

Raised in State, Town, County, School, and School house	
taxes, on residents in said town,	\$2159 15
" in Non-resident taxes,	229 68
Received of Stephen Green, Treasurer for the year 1853,	93 47
" of State Treasurer of Literary Fund,	25 26
" of Joseph Poor, effects of the pound,	4 00
" " " for the use of town house,	8 50
" of George A. Chase, Collector for 1853,	40 83
" of Francis T. Hilliard, for house rent for Mark	
I. Wadleigh,	7 00
" of County of Rockingham, for the support of Jesse	
Roberts, and J. Tibbets,	137 00
" State Treasurer, Railroad money,	10 55
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	\$2715 44

Expenditures.

Paid State Tax, in full,	\$158 20
" County Tax, in full,	262 94
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	\$421 14

Schooling.

Paid Cyrus D. Wadleigh, Prudential Committee in Dist.			
No. 1,			\$210 50
" George A. Chase,	"	Dist. No. 2,	181 00
" " " do do,		and School house Tax,	300 00
" Jonathan Palmer, for his services as Superintending			
School Committee,			4 50
" H. Webster, Commissioner for Rockingham County			
for Teachers' Institute,			10 17
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			\$706 17

Town Debt.

Paid Stephen Green a note against the town with interest,			\$117 72
" Abial Green,	"	"	100 10
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			\$217 82

Contingencies.

Paid Joseph Poor for postage,		23
" " " for padlock for pound,		33
" " " for blank books,		92
" " " for recording taxes,		4 00
" " " for carrying weights and measures to Ex-		
eter to be sealed,		75
" " " for recording marriages and deaths,		77
" " " for notifying Selectmen to attend Jury		
meetings,		4 17
" " " for notifying Jurymen,		4 30
" " " for sawing wood for town house,		1 00
" " " for his services as Town Clerk,		6 00
" Smith, Hall & Clarke for printing town accounts,		7 50
" Lavina Ramsdell for washing town house,		1 50
" J. Getchell & Son for measures for the town,		42
" Freese Dearborn for sealing weights and measures,		2 00
" John Blaisdell for rearing burying ground fence,		50
" Jeremiah F. Blake for services in enrolling soldiers,		1 50
" John Dow for guide-boards,		4 00
" John P. Lamprey for services in enrolling soldiers,		1 50
" Cyrus D. Wadleigh		1 50
" Rufus K. Hilliard for repairing desk in town house,		4 00
" George A. Chase for serving notices and travel,		2 91
" John T. Blake for services as Moderator,		3 00
" " " for going to Exeter to settle with county,		1 00
" " " for stationery and postage,		28

Paid F. Graat for blank book and stationery,	1 28
" Stephen Brown for going to Seabrook to settle with Mrs. Nancy Brown,	50
Stephen Brown for services as Town Treasurer,	5 00
" " for hat for Jesse Roberts,	25
" " for one day in procuring a boarding place for Sally Dow,	1 00
" " for moving " " "	75
Nathan Brown and others their non-residents highway taxes,	20 07
John T. Blake for making taxes,	7 00
Joseph Brown for one cord hemlock wood,	5 00
" Stickney & Tuck for advice and services on account of Sally Dow in 1853,	10 00
" Stickney & Tuck for services and advice on account of a new highway,	15 50
" N. K. Leavitt for serving notices on account of Sally Dow,	2 56
Cyrus Brown for book for A. Ramsdell,	42
Stephen Brown for copying town accounts and procuring the printing of the same,	1 25
" Stephen Green for collecting taxes in the year 1854,	22 41
Green Perkins for 44 ft. of boards,	44

\$147 51

Expenses of the Poor.

Paid Ezra B. Chase for boarding John Rowe,	21 70
" Betsey Gove for boarding Sally Dow from August 1, 1854, to March 15, 1855, at \$2 per week,	64 00
" Betsey Gove for medicine for do.	7 12
" Nancy Brown for boarding Sally Dow from Oct. 11, 1853, to March 15, 1854,	44 00
" Nancy Brown for medicine for do.	3 50
" " for boarding do from March 15, to Aug. 1, 1854,	40 00
" " for medicine for do.	3 30
Dr. J. Flitner for medical attendance on Sally Dow in Nov. 1853,	75
Dr. Flitner for medical attendance on do. from April to Sept 1, 1854,	4 00
" George W. Walton for supplies for the support of Lavina Ramsdell in full for boarding Jesse Roberts,	3 50
" Jesse Roberts,	37 92
" John T. Blake for repairing boots for Jesse Roberts,	1 67
" Lavina Ramsdell for making shirts for do.	50
John Wadleigh for boots for do.	2 90
" " for supplies for the support of Louis Pervere,	4 20
" " for supplies for Mrs. Tibbets,	109 00

Paid Dearborn T. Blake for 5 ft. of hemlock and 8 ft. of pine wood for Mrs. Tibbets,	6 31
" John T. Blake for 1 cord hard wood for Mrs. Tibbets,	6 00
" Nutter Brown for 9 3-4 ft. of hard wood for do,	7 92
" Jeremiah Tilton, Jr. for 8 ft. hemlock wood, for do,	4 50
" John Piper for 3 cords of hemlock wood for do,	13 50
" " " for repairing well sweep for do,	52
" Nathan B. Tilton for house rent for do,	15 00
" Dr. Jacob Williams for medical attendance on the family of Mrs. Tibbits in the year 1853,	10 09
" do do do 1854,	2 50
" Zacheus Roberts for boarding and clothing Betty	
" Page from March 15, 1854, to March 15, 1855,	100 00
" Nathaniel Eastman for boarding and clothing Joseph Sanborn from March 15, 1854, to March 15, 1855,	25 00
" William Walton for 1 cord hemlock wood for Catherine Brown,	5 00
" Edgar A. Brown for 1 cord pine wood for do,	3 00
" Michael Gove for 3 1-2 cords of wood for do in 1853,	15 00
" " " for 2 1-2 " " " 1854,	8 00
" Dr. Jacob Williams for medical attendance on Nancy Prescott in the year 1851.	21 50
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	\$591 93

For Roads and Bridges.

" George W. Rowe, for repairing bridge	67
" Maurice Kimball for lumber for bridges,	19 55
" Joseph Brown for land and damage on Beaver Dam road,	6 16
" Prescott Spaulding for breaking roads,	6 70
" William H. Wadleigh for do,	1 00
" Nathaniel E. Tuck for do,	50
" Charles Hilliard for do,	3 90
" Maurice Kimball for breaking and repairing highway,	9 36
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	\$47 84

Selectmen's Bill.

Paid for their services the past year,	27 00
" for taking inventory and expenses in same,	18 00
" for correcting check list,	1 50
" expended with the Auditors,	3 00
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	\$49 50

Abatements.

To abated James Whidden, for horse that died,	42
" " Joseph Rowe for cow do,	16
" " John Piper for do,	16
" " Samuel P. Tilton for horse and cow do,	64
" " Daniel Reynolds for cow do,	21
" " Cyrus D. Wadleigh for ox do,	34
" " George A. Chase overrated,	2 09
" " Gardner Green poll tax in part,	53
" " Jonathan Brown overrated,	2 42
" " Andrew J. Hilton poll tax for 1854,	2 51
" " Cyrus P. Stevens do,	1 98
" " Dorothy Brown tax for do,	70
" " George E. Dearborn overrated,	1 04
	<hr/> \$13 20
Whole amount of money raised and received,	\$2715 44
" amount paid out,	2195 11
	<hr/> \$520 33
Remains in the hands of Stephen Green, Collector for 1854,	141 23
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Remains in the hands of Treasurer,	\$379 10
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Remains in the hands of George A. Chase, Collector, 1853,	\$10 19
" in the hands of Stephen Green, " 1852,	5 01
" in the hands of Francis Hilliard, " 1851,	35 75
" in the hands of Ira E. Brown, " 1847,	2 65
Town Dr. to Literary Fund money,	25 26
Town Dr. to cash received by William Woodman for the support of a child of Arabella A. German,	\$94 27

STEPHEN BROWN, } Selectmen
 THOS. H. KIMBALL, } of
 JOHN T. BLAKE, } Kensington.

Kensington, March 6, 1855.

The undersigned have examined the accounts exhibited to them, and find them correctly cast and vouched, and find a balance of three hundred and seventy-nine dollars and ten cents in the hands of the Treasurer.

DEARBORN T. BLAKE, } Audi-
 STEPHEN GREEN, } tors.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee,

For the year 1854.

The conducting the schools in the town the year past has been attended by the usual chances—the money expended having been followed by different degrees of profit. During the summer term, in Dist. No. 1, and the winter term in Dist. No. 2, very superior schools were kept by Miss Eaton and Mr. Harriman.

There were 75 scholars who attended school in Dist. No. 1; and 105 in Dist. No. 2. The school in Dist. No. 1, was kept 18 weeks in the summer term and 12 in the winter. In Dist. No. 2, the summer school continued for 18 weeks, and the winter school 11 weeks. So far as known to us, there have been no children, of age to attend school, who have not at some time attended within the year.

Notwithstanding all the earnest endeavors of the past to improve the Common School system, much remains undone, and much that has been done, has failed of attaining its desired end. If it would not be better to combine the duties of both Committees, Prudential and Superintending, it seems to us there should be a greater uniformity, not to say identity of purpose and action between them.

No overtures to employ a teacher should ever be made but in concert with both. A teacher should not be engaged and then sent for examination, but examined as a *preliminary step*, before any engagement is talked of. A private predetermined concert of action should be always maintained between them in the entire conduct of the school. Nor should any teacher ever receive his pay, without having first presented his certificate, and given assurance that he has delivered over his register in good order according to law.

The standard is not sufficiently high in regard to the qualification of teachers. These should be educated to an extent beyond the ordinary rate of school books, and thus be competent to judge of the qualities of a book, as to what of its matter is good and important for use, and what is the mere refuse of book-making. This is the more important from the character of the school books, of which the press is now so fertile; most of them being but mere catechisms that render the master a mere automaton.

Other things being equal, females generally succeed best in our Common Schools,—it being much easier for them to adapt themselves to the petty routine of daily drill—their minds being fertile to suggest numerous variations to enliven the dull monotony of school life. Though some men there are, schoolmasters by nature, endowed with an inborn faculty for the employment, who far transcend any female teacher, in the degree and extent of their success. Students, whom circumstances compel to teach while in their college course, are those, oftener than others, to become our first men in after life. These make the best of teachers, because to the qualities of industry, energy and perseverance they superadd better literary qualifications than are found in mere English scholars. Such might often be obtained by writing to the President of any College and by a trifle more of wages.

In the matter of compensation, there should be no narrowness of views, as a good teacher for one month is better than a mean one for two. It is a good plan to offer a dollar more in a month, on the condition that the teacher exert himself to give the better satisfaction.

Something is always lost by having different teachers for the different terms, and if the teacher of the summer term gives good satisfaction, it is much better to continue her through the winter, than run

the risk of a stranger, unless his recommendations are the most undoubted and reliable.

Opinions have been expressed in some quarters favorable to a high central school in the Town House, for all children advanced beyond the rudiments of learning. This would be much more efficient than the existing system, because when scholars have attained to a certain standard of advancement, they would then be admitted to the higher school. By such a system our schools would certainly be improved, and the rising population attain a much higher culture than at present is possible.

JONATHAN PALMER, } Superintending School
JONATHAN BROWN, } Committee.

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